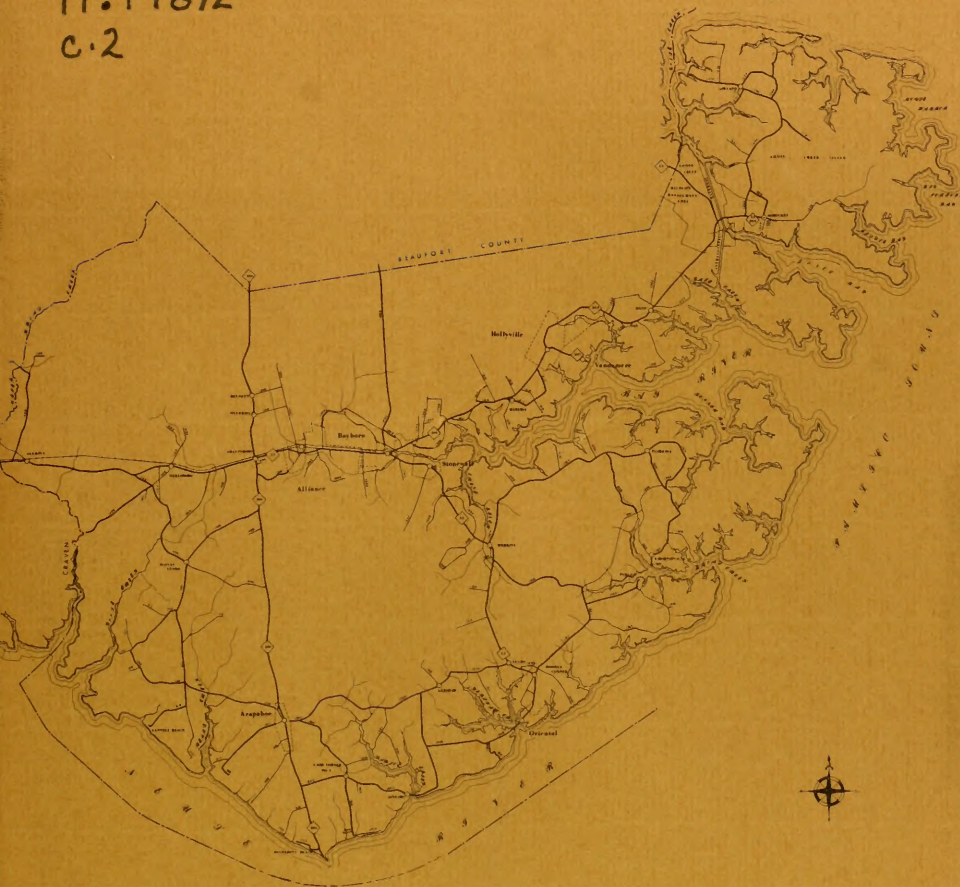


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ECONOMIC POTENTIAL STUDY

PAMLICO COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

ABSTRACT

TITLE: Economic Potential Study for Pamlico County, North Carolina

AUTHOR: State of North Carolina, Department of Conservation and Development, Division of Community Planning

SUBJECT: Population, Income, Economics Data as Related to the Economic Growth of Pamlico County with a Program for Economic Improvement

DATE: July 1969

LOCAL
PLANNING
AGENCY: Pamlico County Planning Board

SOURCE OF
COPIES: Clearinghouse for Federal Scientific and Technical Information, Washington, D. C.

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Department of Conservation and Development, Division of Community Planning, P. O. Box 2719, Raleigh, N. C.

County of Pamlico, Bayboro, N. C.

HUD
PROJECT
NUMBER: NCP-61 SERIES NUMBER: Two of Five NUMBER OF PAGES: 39

ABSTRACT: The population, retail, wholesale, recreation and industrial segments of the society and economy are studied with the effects on the county. The county has maintained a population between 9,000 and 10,000 for years. The younger element of the county is leaving to seek opportunity elsewhere. The county has been unable to develop other economic enterprises as the decline for agricultural labor has continued. This is primarily due to the lack of transportation facilities with the county being on a peninsula and having no bridges.

A program for economic development is included with items concerning better transportation, installation of public water facilities, installation of sewerage disposal facilities and upgrading of current physical and man-made attributes. The latter includes retail establishments, wholesale establishments, recreational facilities, educational facilities and tourist facilities.



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PAMLICO COUNTY - A HISTORICAL SKETCH

Although the area of Pamlico County was settled very early in the history of the United States, the county is fairly young, having been formed in 1872 from portions of both Beaufort and Craven Counties. The date of the earliest settlers has not been determined, but it is surmised that the earliest explores, land-hunters, and indian traders may have ventured into the area shortly after the 1660 migration of Virginians into the Albemarle section of North Carolina.

It also can be assumed that the settlers who located at New Bern circa 1710 did not overlook the opportunity to establish some plantations along the Neuse River. While definite information concerning the first permanent settler of Pamlico County does not exist, his arrival was probably no later than 1690. The early explorers and settlers came in touch with several Indian tribes of the area, primarily the Pampticoe Indians for whom the sound, river, county, and one town are named. These Indians more than likely participated in the Tuscarora "uprising" of 1711 and later.

Enterprise within the area now covered by the county was limited primarily to farming and fishing, with transportation and communication being furnished by boat. For quite sometime, regular freight and passenger boats, bound from Elizabeth City and Washington to New Bern and return, touched the area at Oriental.

The residents of the area underwent the rigors of the Civil War and Reconstruction as part of Beaufort and Craven Counties. Pamlico County has been North Carolina's least known county and its history generally has been absent for the same reason. The area suffers from an isolation which is very unique in North Carolina. The county is situated on a peninsula jutting out into the Pamlico Sound. It is bounded on the north by the Pamlico River and on the south by the Neuse River, both formidable bodies of water at this point in their travels to the Atlantic

Ocean. Thus, colonial north-south traffic virtually had no alternative but to travel inland to avoid the difficult river crossings and impassable swamps of Pamlico County. The tendency of such north-south traffic to by-pass Pamlico County exists to this day because there are still no bridges crossing these large bodies of water this far east. The eastermost bridges are situated at Washington on the Pamlico to the northwest in Beaufort County and at New Bern on the Neuse to the southwest in Craven County. North Carolina State Highway Commission ferry service is supplied from Lees Creek to Bayview on the Pamlico, and private ferry service is available from Minnesott Beach to Cherry Point Marine Air Station on the Neuse. Justification for both these facilities is based on two major "industrial" developments, namely, Texas Gulf Sulphur's phosphate mine in Beaufort County and the air station in Craven County.

Source: Sharpe, A New Geography of North Carolina. (in part)

INTRODUCTION

The Economic Potential Study for Pamlico County is a necessary step in the county's planning process. Facts must be gathered and projections made concerning population and economy to make it possible to estimate and guide future development and growth. The major assets of the county, the people and their means of livelihood, must be inventoried.

The first section of this report is devoted to population, including characteristics, trends, projections, and analyses. The data includes information pertaining to past and present population and projections indicating characteristics such as sex, age, race, income, and education. Past and present population trends, along with anticipated developments, are used as guides in estimating the future population and its characteristics. Developments other than those anticipated could affect the future population.

The second section of the report covers the economy of Pamlico County and the factors affecting that economy. The main factors discussed include industry, commerce, and agriculture.

A third section of the report involves a summary and conclusions reached from the first and second sections. It also contains recommendations for the alleviation of difficulties where such have been determined.

SECTION I
CHAPTER I
POPULATION

Pamlico County's population remained relatively constant from 1910 to 1960 ranging from a low of 9,060 in 1920 to a high of 9,993 in 1950. The greatest change in population between decades was from 9,966 in 1910 to 9,060 in 1920, a decrease of approximately 9 percent. After this decrease, the county's population began to increase steadily from 1920 to 1950; however, in 1960 the population had a slight decrease again when it dropped to 9,850. This trend was projected to continue. Table 1 depicts Pamlico County's population from 1910 - 1967.

The most significant fact is that Pamlico County has not had the population explosion experienced by other areas and has even suffered a decline from 1950 to the present. This is no doubt due to out-migration. See Tables 2 and 3.

There are several reasons for migration from rural areas, such as Pamlico County, to urban areas, including:

1. a trend toward fewer and larger farms;
2. mechanization of agriculture; and
3. lack of economic opportunity in fields other than agriculture in the county.

TABLE 1
Population Trends for Pamlico County 1910-1967

Civil Divisions	1910	1920	1930	1940	1950	1960 ¹	1967 ²
Township 1	1,515	1,444	1,159	1,542	1,951	1,686	Esti- mated
Township 2	2,120	1,872	1,712	1,124	1,441	1,573	
Stonewall Town	161	218	329	261	272	214	
Township 3	2,498	2,330	2,699	3,073	2,990	3,169	
Bayboro Town	370	349	468	428	453	545	
Hollyville Town	126	107	153	—	—	—	
Vandemere Town	296	308	360	436	475	452	
Township 4	1,004	819	908	1,054	1,112	945	
Township 5	2,829	2,595	2,389	2,913	2,499	2,477	
Arapahoe Town	—	—	290	307	273	274	
Oriental Town	645	607	601	535	590	522	
PAMLICO COUNTY	9,966	9,060	9,299	9,706	9,993	9,850	9,536
Change		-906	+239	+406	+287	-143	-314
Percent Change		-9.1	+2.6	+4.4	+3.0	-1.4	-3.1

¹U.S. Census of Population.

²Estimates of the Population of North Carolina Counties
1966 and 1967, Carolina Population Center, University of
North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 1968.

TABLE 2
NET MIGRATION - PAMLICO COUNTY
1950 - 1960

A. <u>Total Population</u>	
1950 Population	9,993
Natural Increase (1950-1960) ¹	1,548
Expected 1960 Population ²	11,541
Actual 1960 Population	9,850
Population Loss Due to Migration	-1,691
B. <u>White</u>	
1950 Population	6,537
Natural Increase (1950-1960) ¹	658
Expected 1960 Population ²	7,195
Actual 1960 Population	6,239
Population Loss Due to Migration	-956
C. <u>Nonwhite</u>	
1950 Population	3,456
Natural Increase (1950-1960) ¹	890
Expected 1960 Population ²	4,346
Actual 1960 Population	3,611
Population Loss Due to Migration	-735

Source: U.S. Census of Population; North Carolina State Board of Health.

¹Number of births in excess of deaths.

²1950 Population plus natural increase.

TABLE 3
NET MIGRATION BY RACE, SEX AND AGE GROUPS
PAMLICO COUNTY 1950 - 1960

1950		1960		Percent of 1950 Group Present in 1960
Age	Population	Age	Population	
Male-White		Male-White		
0-4	403	10-14	356	88.3
5-9	353	15-19	290	82.2
10-14	316	20-24	131	41.5
15-19	264	25-29	138	52.3
20-24	215	30-34	179	83.3
25-34	444	35-44	383	86.3
35-44	417	45-54	374	89.7
45-54	365	55-64	304	83.3
Female-White		Female-White		
0-4	372	10-14	337	90.6
5-9	313	15-19	233	74.4
10-14	308	20-24	138	44.8
15-19	275	25-29	178	64.7
20-24	189	30-34	173	91.5
25-34	405	35-44	383	94.6
35-44	433	45-54	392	90.5
45-54	348	55-64	314	90.2
Male-Nonwhite		Male-Nonwhite		
0-4	269	10-14	240	89.2
5-9	231	15-19	168	72.7
10-14	242	20-24	106	43.8
15-19	189	25-29	96	50.8
20-24	118	30-34	83	70.3
25-34	189	35-44	149	78.8
35-44	167	45-54	146	87.4
45-54	148	55-64	93	62.8
Female-Nonwhite		Female-Nonwhite		
0-4	261	10-14	244	93.5
5-9	236	15-19	179	75.8
10-14	205	20-24	108	52.7
15-19	216	25-29	112	51.9
20-24	155	30-34	113	72.9
25-34	197	35-44	166	84.3
35-44	176	45-54	150	85.2
45-54	140	55-64	104	74.3

Source: U.S. Census of Population

The rural citizen seeks employment in urban areas because the job opportunities are greater in number and more remunerative. A number of these individuals will move immediately to be near the new job while others may commute initially, probably moving later. The people who do move away tend to be the younger adults (See Table 3). As the women of child-bearing age move away, the birth rate tends to drop. Thus, the population decline is accelerated.

There is no significant urban area located in Pamlico County. Those seeking urban employment must commute or move to an urban area. The resulting loss of population affects the economy adversely. These people are no longer available to the county to support industrial and commercial enterprise. Conversely, industrial and commercial jobs must be available in the county to retain this segment of the population.

The composition of the population of Pamlico County reflects the out-migration of younger adults upon reaching employable age with a distinct drop in population from the 15-19 age group to the 20-24 age group. See Table 4.

The North Carolina median nonwhite age does not differ appreciably from that of Pamlico County. However, the North Carolina median white age falls in the 25-29 age group while that of Pamlico County is in the 30-34 age group. Thus, it is concluded that North Carolina possesses a greater percentage of employable age individuals than does Pamlico County.

The fact that the median age of the nonwhite race in Pamlico County is in the 15-19 age group, while that of the white race is in the 30-34 age group, is significant. Nonwhite families in the county tend to have more children in the family. It is also significant that the nonwhite families have a lower income than white families (verified later in this report). Thus, those with the most need have the least economic support. A number of solutions might be offered here. The least of these should be the temporary alleviation through the proper welfare programs. The permanent solution would be the training of the

TABLE 4
PAMLICO COUNTY 1960, POPULATION BY AGE, RACE, AND SEX

AGE GROUP	<u>TOTAL</u>		<u>WHITE</u>		<u>NONWHITE</u>	
	<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>	<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>	<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>
0-4	576	594	292	294	284	300
5-9	637	596	348	321	289	275
10-14	596	581	356	337	240	244
15-19	458	412	290	233	168	179
20-24	237	246	131	138	106	108
25-29	234	290	138	178	96	112
30-34	262	286	179	173	83	113
35-39	265	277	188	185	77	92
40-44	267	272	195	198	72	74
45-49	281	288	202	204	79	84
50-54	239	254	172	188	67	66
55-59	206	211	155	139	51	62
60-64	191	207	149	165	42	42
65-69	151	166	112	127	39	39
70-74	126	134	102	104	24	30
75+	144	166	112	124	32	42
*Median 20-24	20-24	20-24	30-34	30-34	15-19	15-19

*The median age is that age at which half the population is younger and half the population is older.

nonwhites for more gainful employment, availability of job opportunities, and possible training in family planning with the inclusion of birth controls.

The educational level of the population in Pamlico County is below that of the State of North Carolina with the median being .3 of a year less. The white population of Pamlico County has a median educational level of .5 of a year below that of North Carolina. The surprising fact is that the nonwhite population of Pamlico County has a median level of years completed of .2 of a year above the nonwhites in North Carolina. The nonwhite percentage of college graduates in Pamlico County is almost equal to the nonwhite percentage of college graduates in North Carolina. This is attributed to the Negro school teaching element.

The total percentage of college graduates in Pamlico County is approximately half of that for North Carolina. There is no technical industrial activity in the county that would be of interest to this college trained element. To retain or secure this element of the population, technical job opportunities must be created. The better educated and trained command higher incomes, thus helping the overall economy.

The population of Pamlico County under the current circumstances, no significant industries, is projected to continue a downward trend. The population projections utilized to the year 1980 were programmed by Josef H. Perry and Dr. Horace Hamilton using the cohort-survival method. This method adjusts figures from the last census forward by age groups year by year to the forecast date, with separate adjustments made for deaths, births, and net migration.

It is significant that all age groups, with the exception of those over 65 years of age, are projected to decline. This hastens the decline of the population due to the loss of women of child-bearing age. It further increases the median and average age of the population.

TABLE 5
YEARS OF SCHOOL COMPLETED (1960)
PAMLICO COUNTY NORTH CAROLINA

	TOTAL	WHITE	NON-WHITE	TOTAL	WHITE	NON-WHITE
Percentages Persons 25 Years and Over	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
No. School Years Com- pleted	3.2	1.9	6.3	3.1	2.1	6.5
Elementary						
1-4 Years	12.7	8.0	24.1	13.4	10.1	25.5
5-7 Years	28.1	27.6	28.5	24.9	23.6	29.9
8 Years	10.0	9.9	10.3	9.3	9.4	9.0
High School						
1-3 Years	20.3	21.8	17.0	17.0	17.7	14.6
4 Years	17.3	20.5	9.6	18.9	21.7	8.7
College						
1-3 Years	5.1	6.9	0.9	7.1	8.3	2.4
4 or more Years	3.3	3.4	3.3	6.3	7.1	3.5
Median Com- pleted	8.6	9.3	7.2	8.9	9.8	7.0

Source: North Carolina Department of Education and U.S.
Unpublished Census.

The county need not accept the declining population projections as inevitable. The trend can be stabilized or reversed but would require the effort of all, citizens and officials, to improve the cultural, social and economic climate of the county. The county has two favorable characteristics to enable it to hold and attract people; namely, the temperate climate and access to water. However, there are several major deterrants; namely, the lack of adequate bridges for access to the county and the lack of any public water and sewer facilities in the county. The county water and sewer plan recently approved by the County Commissioners should be implemented by the towns of the county. Without this implementation it is doubtful if the county should seek to increase the population. The soils and water table in the county are not suitable for the installation of septic tank systems for a great increase in population.

The transportation problem is obviously a deterrant to a population increase. Most people that would remain in the county or move to the county now would be inclined to seek employment outside of the county. The main road leading from the peninsula on which Pamlico County is located connects with the remainder of the state on the west, leaving the peninsula water-bound to the south, east, and north. This transportation problem should be corrected by the State of North Carolina.

Other methods of making the county more attractive to the current citizens and future citizens are discussed in Section III. These include programs for the elimination of numerous garbage dumps, upgrading of commercial enterprise, utilization of climatic and water assets, etc.

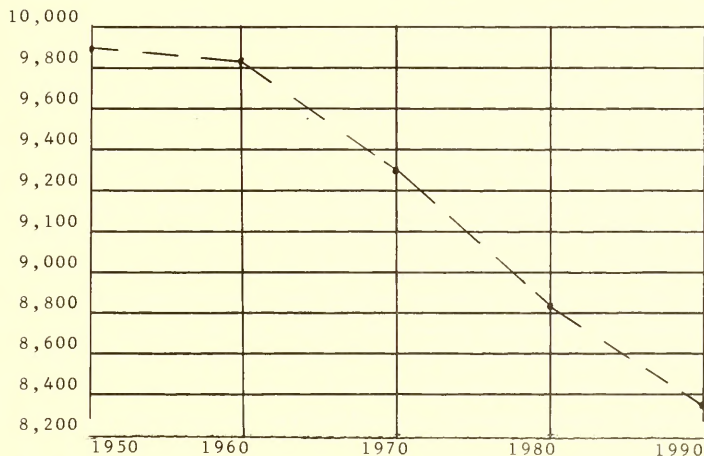
TABLE 6
PAMLICO COUNTY

POPULATION PROJECTIONS, 1950-1990

YEAR	AGES	0-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34
1950		1305	1133	1071	944	677	646	589
1960		1170	1233	1177	870	483	524	548
1970		1093	1071	1056	941	530	478	387
1980		1080	1059	988	817	481	514	424
YEAR	AGES	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69
1950		638	555	489	512	359	318	321
1960		542	539	569	493	417	398	317
1970		437	497	482	479	484	383	375
1980		399	350	384	442	411	369	436
YEAR	AGES	70-74	75-79	80-84	85 & Over	TOTAL	PERCENT OF CHANGE	
1950		258	178 (75 & over)			9993		
1960		260	172	97	41	9850	-1.4	
1970		326	169	97	73	9358	-5.0	
1980		314	196	120	85	8869	-5.2	
*1990		-	-	-	-	8390	-5.4	

Source: 1980 Population Projections for North Carolina Counties
Perry and Hamilton Pamphlet 10/63. (except 1990 figure)

*The 1990 figure is computed by assuming the same approximate
decline as 1970 and 1980 with the same approximate acceleration.



CHAPTER 2 THE LABOR FORCE

The county is having difficulty holding its population, which includes elements of the labor force. The supply of labor and the characteristics of the labor force are important in determining the economic potential of Pamlico County. The data utilized in this chapter varies from 1960 to 1967, the earliest being the 1960 Census of Population and latest being 1967 information from the Employment Security Commission of North Carolina. This is necessitated by the frequency and type of data available.

TABLE 7
LABOR FORCE SUMMARY
(From Work Force Estimates-ESC)

	1966		1967		Percent Change 12 Months	
	Pamlico	N.C.	Pamlico	N.C.	Pamlico	N.C.
Total Work Force	2,180	2,038,800	2,140	2,081,000	-1.8%	+2.6%
Unemployment	90	65,200	120	70,900	+33.3%	+8.7%
Unemployment percent of total work force	4.1	3.2	5.6	3.4	+1.5%	+0.2%
Total Employ- ment	2,090	1,973,600	2,020	2,010,100	-3.3%	+1.8%

As with the year 1966 and 1967 above, the total work force and the total employed has shown a steady decline from 1964 to 1967.

While North Carolina has been enjoying a rise in the total work force, Pamlico County has been suffering a loss. Although North Carolina suffered a rise in unemployment, Pamlico County's rise in unemployment was almost quadruple that of the state as a whole from 1966 to 1967. The total employed in North Carolina rose slightly while Pamlico County again suffered a loss.

It is apparent that Pamlico County has lost a portion of its available labor force through out-migration. Also, an

increasing number of the labor force remaining in Pamlico County was unemployed.

TABLE 8
INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT

Year	<u>Annual Average Insured</u>			<u>Ratio of Insured Unemployed to Employment</u>		
	<u>Employ- ment</u>	<u>Manufacturing Employment</u>	<u>Unemploy- ment</u>	<u>Pamlico County</u>	<u>North Carolina</u>	<u>U.S.A.</u>
1964	579	342	30	5.2	3.2	3.7
1965	585	330	20	3.4	2.3	2.9
1966	556	295	17	3.1	1.8	2.3

Source: N.C. Employment Security Commission

The year to year ratio of insured unemployed to employed is improving in Pamlico County yet it has not reached the low ratio of either North Carolina or the United States. The total insured employment and the manufacturing insured employment shows a steady decline. When an unemployed person uses up the number of weeks of unemployment checks available to him, he drops out of the insured unemployment statistics. This could cause distortion in the ratio of insured unemployed to employed.

There are several methods by which the unemployment ratio can be reduced further and by which the employment decline can be halted. One method is to provide the training facilities necessary to train prospective employees in the skills desired by industry and commerce. A second method is to attract new industry and commerce or to induce those presently in the county to expand. It is probable that both methods would need to be employed in any given circumstances.

It can be anticipated that the existing Pamlico County Technical Institute will provide the nucleus for the first method. The second method is more adequately covered in later chapters. Suffice it here to say that Pamlico County should not just consider industry and commerce as being the usual plants and buildings. The greatest assets in the county, climate and

water, tend to make the "business" of recreation of prime importance.

New input into the labor force may be determined by an examination of high school graduates and losses. The main concern is the fact that only approximately one half of the high school graduates remain in Pamlico County to enter the county's labor force. These graduates are more susceptible to further training and command higher wages.

TABLE 9

SUMMARY OF HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES AND LOSSES - PAMLICO COUNTY

	1964	1965	1966	1967
Number of high school graduates	136	157	164	187
Number of graduates entering labor force in Pamlico County	77	74	89	82
Percent	56.6	47.1	54.3	43.8
Number of reported school losses (those entering labor force without graduating)	87	108	79	Not Available
Total of graduates entering labor force and reported school losses	164	182	168	

Source: Bureau of Employment Security Research.

Pamlico County's high schools have been educating young graduates for someone else's labor force. This fact reinforces previous comments that new jobs must be made available to retain Pamlico County's younger people, the producers. It is significant that the number of graduates has increased steadily from 1964 to 1967; yet, the percent of graduates remaining in Pamlico County in 1967 took a marked drop.

Recruitable workers is another facet of the economy of interest to industry and commerce. The Bureau of Employment Security Research periodically collects data for different areas and such a program was conducted for the Bayboro area in September of 1968. The area covered a radius of 25 miles around Bayboro and included portions of Craven County, Beaufort County

and Jones County as well as Pamlico County in its entirety. Excluded from the area were portions of Craven County and all of Carteret County lying within the 25 mile radius but south of the Neuse River. This exclusion is due to a lack of transportation across the Neuse River.

Employment Security Commission estimates indicate there are 825 persons within the recruitable area that have experience in manufacturing jobs or that are deemed trainable for such jobs. This latter group consists of 200 persons, 45 years of age or under, that are deemed inexperienced but trainable. The entire 825 persons consist of both those currently seeking employment and potential job seekers.

Of particular interest is the fact that over fifty percent of this recruitable manufacturing labor supply is female. Historically, the female segment in manufacturing has been utilized primarily in the low-paying "cut-and-sew" and electronic operations. Better industries would look to the 365 males in the recruitable force. This recruitable force should serve as an inducement to industry.

There were 975 persons commuting to places of employment outside of the county in 1960. It is reasonable to assume such a commuting pattern still exists because there has been no increase in the number of job opportunities within the county.

It can also be assumed that a majority of these commuters would accept employment closer to their homes in Pamlico County if such employment was available. This would add to the recruitable labor supply available to industry and commerce locating within the county.

TABLE 10
RECRUITABLE PRODUCTION WORKERS IN BAYBORO AREA
SEPTEMBER 1968

[illegible]

Source: Employment Security Commission

TABLE 11

COMMUTING PATTERNS FOR PAMLICO COUNTY - 1960

<u>County to Which Commuting</u>	<u>Number Commuting</u>
Beaufort	12
Carteret	16
Craven	844
Jones	11
Onslow	42
Others	<u>50</u>
TOTAL	975

Source: Commuting Patterns in N.C., 1960 - U.S. Bureau of Census

It should be noted also that one hundred fifty (150) individuals in-commuted during 1960 to work in Pamlico County. However, our primary interest here is the total out-commuting. It is felt that any or all nine hundred seventy five individuals out-commuting are potentially recruitable for work in Pamlico County.

In summation, Pamlico County has the potential labor supply in its high school graduates, its recruitable labor force, and its commuting residents. It also has the nucleus to train these workers in the Pamlico County Technical Insitute. The county needs the jobs for these people. In Section III, programs are pointed out to alleviate this problem.

CHAPTER 3

FAMILY AND PER CAPITA INCOME

The financial status of residents of Pamlico County is examined to determine both earning and buying power. Data from the 1960 Census is included for background information only. It is assumed that the ratios, not the actual figures, would be approximately the same in 1969 due to the lack of economic growth in the county. More recent data compiled by the Employment Security Commission establishes trends.

Noticeably, income of white families is only 21.9 percent greater than that of nonwhite families, yet the white per capita income is 108 percent greater than the nonwhite. This leads to the conclusion that the nonwhite families have far more members than the white. Thus, the nonwhite individual has far less purchasing power than the white individual. The position of Pamlico County relative to per capita income has improved from 1947 to 1966 based on its ranking with the other ninety-nine counties in North Carolina, having risen from 98 to 82. This is a move in the right direction. However, the per capita income in Pamlico County in 1966 was still only 62.5 percent of that for the State of North Carolina. Per capita income must be increased to improve Pamlico County's overall economic status.

A low family income results in limited purchasing power which has an adverse effect on retail sales, wholesale sales, and services. Due to the lack of adequate income, a heavy burden is placed on local welfare programs increasing demands on tax revenue. Some of the families live on farms and may produce much of their food for home consumption. Nevertheless, the family income in the county is considerably lower than the state average.

When considering the improvement of per capita and family income, one solution lies in upgrading skills of workers enabling them to command higher wages. In recent years, pay scales for semi-skilled and skilled labor has risen sharply while the pay scale for unskilled labor has suffered minor increases due to

TABLE 12
PAMLICO COUNTY FAMILY INCOMES - 1959
Based on 1960 Census Information

	Non-white	White	Total White & Non- White
Total Families	650	1,658	2,308
Total Family Income	\$1,755,000	\$6,367,500	\$8,122,500
Median Family Income	2,700	3,292	2,851
Total Personal Income	1,802,385	6,539,424	8,341,116
Per Capita Income	503	1,046	847

TABLE 13
PER CAPITA INCOMES

	1947	1954	1958	1962	1966
Pamlico County Per Capita Income	\$ 383	\$ 384	\$ 717	\$1,060	\$1,424
Rank of Pamlico in 100 counties	98	88	94	88	82
N.C. Per Capita Income	894	1,190	1,420	1,732	2,277

Source: Employment Security Commission

very limited increases in State and Federal minimum wage laws. Another point to consider is that the demand for unskilled labor diminishes as our society becomes more technical in nature. New industries and commercial enterprises that seek skilled technical manpower should be sought by industrial development groups. These industries and commercial enterprises would rely upon Pamlico County Technical Institute or a similar facility to train prospective employees in the technical skills needed.

Consideration should be given to the agricultural segment of the economy which is also covered in the following chapter. Farm income should continue to rise in part due to the increase in mechanization which requires more technically trained labor. However, this tendency toward mechanization will decrease the number of workers needed.

SECTION II

CHAPTER 4

THE AGRICULTURAL ECONOMY

Because of the increased interest in industry, the agricultural segment of the economy has a tendency to be overlooked. However, agriculture is one of the nation's largest industries. Although the trend is toward fewer workers because of mechanization, the income from farming will increase due to the necessity to feed the nation's increasing population.

In addition to the farmer's direct support of the overall economy by his own production, he supports other segments of the economy through purchases of machinery, tractors, equipment, fuel, fertilizer, utility services, etc. Products from farms are utilized in meat packing, fertilizer, cannery, textile, and other industries.

North Carolina ranks high among the states in agricultural employment and capacity being first in farm population, second in number of farms, first in flue cured tobacco, and fourth in cash farm income. In 1967, 73,719 of Pamlico County's 216,328 acres were devoted to farmland. Harvested cropland in the county totaled 27,576 acres.

TABLE 14

NUMBER OF FARMS IN PAMLICO COUNTY

YEAR	1959	1964
FARMS	466	330

TABLE 15

AVERAGE SIZE OF FARMS IN PAMLICO COUNTY

YEAR	1959	1964
SIZE	132.6 acres	172.1 acres

The number of farming units in Pamlico County is steadily decreasing while the average size of the individual farming unit is steadily increasing. This is indicative of and caused by the trend toward mechanization. The farming units tend to increase in size to economically justify investment in more and larger machinery. Like in other economic enterprises, the greater the number produced, the less the cost per unit. This mechanization increases the demand for skills on the farm but decreases the farm population required. These former farmers need retraining and job opportunities in other fields of endeavor.

TABLE 16
AGRICULTURAL ECONOMIC TRENDS IN PAMLICO COUNTY

	1959	1964
Total farm products sold	\$2,765,066	\$3,787,805
Average sold per farm	\$ 5,896	\$ 11,478
All crops sold	\$1,845,247	\$2,980,884
Field crops sold	\$1,750,049	\$2,895,265
Vegetables sold	\$ 37,827	\$ 47,076
Fruits and Nuts sold	\$ 1,237	\$ 1,117
Forest products sold	\$ 56,134	\$ 37,426
All livestock & livestock products	\$ 919,819	\$ 806,821
Poultry & poultry products	\$ 446,003	\$ 359,238
Dairy products	\$ 71,265	\$ 235,729
Livestock other than dairy & poultry	\$ 402,551	\$ 211,854

Source: U.S. Census of Agriculture (1959 & 1964)

Field crops have assumed a more important role in the economic picture while livestock and livestock products have remained stable or dropped slightly. It can be assumed that the demand for farm production will continue to increase due to the population increases of the state, nation and world. The exception of the latter is dairy products. This increase in field crops would also be attributable to larger farm units. The larger fields and the larger equipment make it more feasible to raise field crops on a larger scale. Noticeably, the farm income in Pamlico County rose by approximately \$1,000,000 from 1959 to 1964. This increase was primarily due to field crop increases. The average income of the individual farming unit has almost doubled in the same period of time. In addition to the increase in prices received, this latter fact must also be considered in the light of the decrease in farming units previously mentioned.

Figure 1

Utilization of All Land in Farms
in Pamlico County - 1965

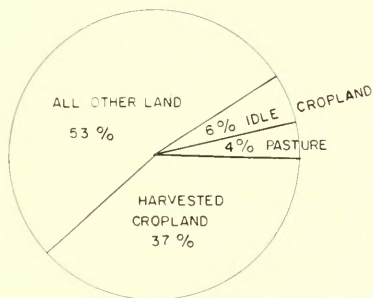
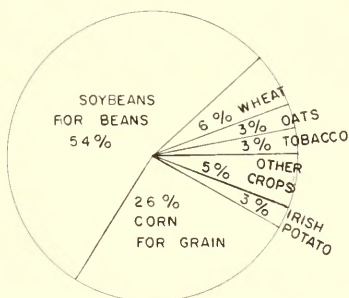


Figure 2

Percent of Total Cropland
Harvested - 1965



Source: County Commissioners Farm Census Survey

TABLE 17

ACREAGE DEVOTED TO MAJOR CROPS - PAMLICO COUNTY CROP

	1967	1968
Corn	8,077	8,116
Tobacco	741	810
Wheat	1,073	1,668
Oats	768	835
Soybeans	15,112	16,288
Lespedeza	725	564

Source: 1968 County Commissioners Farm Census Summary

According to written statements in the 1968 County Commissioners Farm Census Summary, the trends evidenced in Table 17 from 1967 to 1968 were substantiated by like trends from 1966 to 1967. The one exception was corn which showed a one percent decrease from 1966 to 1967.

Less than one-half of the land in farms in Pamlico County is utilized for cropland. This is no doubt due to the lack of adequate drainage and the high water table in a majority of the county. Of this cropland 80 percent is devoted to two crops, soybeans and corn. These crops lend themselves to the current mechanization trend and they enjoy a favorable price support program from the United States Government. Production of other crops and livestock would tend to suffer due to the two factors favoring soybeans and corn.

TABLE 18
NUMBERS OF LIVESTOCK

	1967	1968
Sows & Gilts for breeding	243	234
Cows & Heifers		
For Milk	350	391
For Beef	971	939
Hens & Pullets	23,853	23,945

Source: 1968 County Commissioners Farm Census Survey

Pamlico County farmers have increased their incomes over recent years. However, it was necessary for the farm population to decrease in some cases and to seek off-farm employment in other cases.

The farmers of Pamlico County, like others in the United States, are seeking to better their economic status by increased yield, mechanization, and raising crops that provide a reasonable rate of return on capital investment. The trend in agriculture is more production from less labor with more capital investment.

Agriculture will offer more and more employment to machinery and technical skills but less and less employment in the number of people. This pattern is true across the entire nation as well as in Pamlico County. This trend will continue until the capital investment of the farmer earns enough return to be on a comparable basis with industrial and commercial investment. When this time arrives, more capital will be funneled into agricultural pursuits.

CHAPTER 5

RETAIL AND WHOLESALE TRADE

The monetary return from retail sales in Pamlico County has shown some increases over the years. However, the percent of such increase in Pamlico County has lagged well behind the percent of increase in North Carolina from 1947 to 1962. From 1962 to 1966, Pamlico County increased in retail sales at a greater percentage than North Carolina. Even with this reversed trend, the losses prior to 1962 will be difficult to overcome and will certainly take time.

When considering increases or decreases in sales, etc., the tendency of the dollar to decrease in value (inflation) during recent years, must be considered. Although the number of dollars from retail sales has been increasing over the years, Pamlico County has suffered a loss in the number of retail establishments and the number of employees in retail establishments. This is attributed to the ease with which people can commute to urban centers in adjoining counties that offer greater variety, the limited income of Pamlico County residents, and out-migration.

While retail sales increased, the wholesale sales decreased almost \$2,000,000 in yearly sales from \$5,700,000 in 1958 to \$3,709,000 in 1963. During the same period from 1958 to 1963, the number of wholesale establishments decreased from seventeen to fifteen. From these reports it must be assumed that retail establishments in Pamlico County are depending more and more on wholesale firms out of the county.

TABLE 20

RETAIL SALES - PAMLICO COUNTY

	1947	1954	1958	1962	1966
Pamlico County	\$1,205,000	\$2,285,000	\$3,127,000	\$4,065,000	\$5,638,000
Percent Increase		81.0%	36.9%	30.0%	38.7%
North Carolina	\$1,673,627,000	\$3,072,846,000	\$4,346,021,000	\$6,449,162,000	\$8,548,508,000
Percent Increase		83.6%	41.4%	48.4%	32.5%

Source: Employment Security Commission

TABLE 21

RETAIL TRENDS - PAMLICO COUNTY

	<u>1958</u>	<u>1963</u>
Number of retail establishments	80	73 (- 8.8%)
Employees in retail establishments	108	63 (-41.7%)

Source: 1958 & 1963 Censuses of Business

CHAPTER 6

MANUFACTURING

"Every community in the United States purchases goods and services from outside its borders. A community pays for these goods and services by specializing in the production of certain goods and services sold outside the community. The goods and services sold outside the community play a key role in determining the economic health of the community."¹

Those manufacturers that sell their products outside the county are considered to be "basic" industries which bring in "outside" money. Conversely, those that sell their products within the county are said to be "nonbasic" industries. Some manufacturers are considered basic and nonbasic. If all manufacturing in a county is nonbasic, the economy tends to stagnate as no new or outside money enters the county. Pamlico County, a county that imports greatly for goods and services, must export to recoup the monies expended outside the county.

The two outstanding facts which are presented in the following table involve a lack of diversification and the excessive number of females employed in the manufacturing enterprises. It is an historic truth in North Carolina that women have been employed in seasonal, low-paying and/or "cut and sew" enterprises.

Manufacturers that utilize more male employees are needed. These firms tend to employ heads of households, furnish a more stable income, and provide greater fringe benefits. The main basic industry is seafood processing with timber products being second. There has been little or no growth in manufacturing and there is little diversification. Farm products added to seafood products and timber products cover most of the county's exports and constitute the basic industries.

¹Tiebout, Charles M., The Community Economic Base Study, Committee for Economic Development, Dec., 1962.

TABLE 22

PAMLICO COUNTY MANUFACTURERS - 1968

<u>Name and Location</u>	<u>Process of Product</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Sound Packing Company Whortonville	Distributor of Fresh Seafood	4	64
Bay Packing Company Oriental	Processing Crab Meat	3	
Lowland Seafood Company Lowland	Processing Crab Meat and Oysters	15	20
Fulcher Crab Company Oriental	Processing Crab Meat	3	48
Caroon Brothers Seafood Lowland	Processing Seafood	3	28
Pamlco Packing Company Vandemere	Seafood Processor and Packers	15 part-time 5	
Bayboro Dehydrating Bayboro	Manufacture of Protein Meal	6	
Edward Ellis Everett Lowland	Pulpwood Producer	7	
H. B. Dunn Stonewall	Sawmill	18	

The importance of the seafood industry is quite evident. In 1968, Pamlico County ranked sixth among North Carolina counties in the total poundage taken with 4,399,000 pounds. Of a more significant nature, the county ranked third in income from this poundage with the fishermen receiving \$975,000 in 1968.

A need exists to seek a diversity of industry. The labor supply is available. However, adequate water supply and sewage disposal is not available. It is doubtful if any industry will locate in Pamlico County until this latter deficiency is remedied. The soil is suitable for industrial sites along the Norfolk-Southern Railroad and N.C. 55 in the vicinity of Grantsboro and Bayboro. The nucleus for training industrial workers exists in Pamlico County Technical Institute.

There are two prime deterrents to industrial development in Pamlico County. Both involve governmental action. As mentioned in the previous paragraph, the lack of water and sewer facilities is of primary importance; this is the responsibility of town and county government. In addition, the lack of north-south transportation is another deterrent. No bridge crosses the Pamlico River to the north or the Neuse River to the south; this is a state responsibility.

CHAPTER 7
OTHER ECONOMIC ENTERPRISES

There are large paper companies with main operating facilities located in neighboring counties which have purchased large tracts of timberland in Pamlico County. These include:

	<u>Ownership in Pamlico County</u>
Weyerhaeuser	13,400 acres
Pamlico Timber Company	16,000 acres
International Paper Company	10,700 acres
Taylor Company	11,400 acres
Reigal Paper Company	2,000 acres
	<hr/>
TOTAL	53,500 acres

Source: Above figures furnished by Pamlico County Tax Office.

Although these companies engage in proper and productive forest management, the majority of wealth produced by the forestland leaves Pamlico County. Also, the removal of this amount of land, 24% of the land of the county, from ownership within the county, could have two adverse affects. The previous one cited above and the removal of some land that might be put to agricultural use.

The recreation segment of the economy on a commercial basis is one which should be capitalized upon. Hunting, fishing, and water sports are certainly available in Pamlico County. At the present time, there are a number of cottages and camps along the north shore of the Neuse River near Minnesott Beach, Oriental, and Janerio. A new golf course and development are under construction at Minnesott Beach. The supplying of facilities and services for summer vacationers and winter hunters could become one of Pamlico County's most lucrative businesses if capitalized upon.

Items that should be considered in developing the recreation potential of Pamlico County are listed in Chapter 9 of this publication and in the Pamlico County Land Development Plan yet to be published. Emphasis should be placed on better accessibility to areas of the county, opening private timberlands to public hunting and camping, adequate motel facilities, establishment of a tourist information bureau and public access areas to water.

Development standards are very low in these resort areas. There is a need for subdivision and zoning control and for upkeep requirements. Shoddy development is uninviting - who wants to invest in a recreational slum?

Building inspection would result in better development, attraction of more people, a better place to live, and a better economy. The cycle leading to shoddy construction, deterioration and dilapidation must be broken. The mental attitudes of the residents would be a most significant help. If they detested such sights, the job would be well on its way to accomplishment.

SECTION III
CHAPTER 8
CONCLUSIONS

Population

1. The population has shown a slight decline for years and has ranged between 9,000 and 10,000.
2. Population projections indicate that a continuing decline in population will take place if no modifications are instituted to render Pamlico County more attractive industrially, economically, and recreationally.
3. Out-migration is taking place in the 20 to 44 age group - the productive work years and the years of child-bearing.
4. The median educational attainment of Pamlico County is below that of North Carolina.
5. The median educational attainment of nonwhites is below that of whites.
6. Although out-migration of the population (including the labor force) is occurring, industry and business in the county cannot provide employment for those remaining.

Economy

1. Median income is below that of the State of North Carolina.
2. Median income of nonwhites is far below the median income of whites.
3. Retail sales have increased but have lagged disproportionately behind those of the State of North Carolina. For example, while the volume of sales increased in Pamlico County 30% from 1958 to 1962, the volume in North Carolina increased 48.4%.
4. Wholesale sales have decreased with this revenue apparently leaving the county.
5. Industry is not diversified and has not increased.

6. The Pamlico County Technical Institute can serve as the training ground to upgrade skills.
7. Agriculture continues to be an important segment of the economy. The number of farms is decreasing while the acreage per farm is increasing. The number decreased by 136 farms from 1959 to 1964 while average acreage increased 39.5 acres.
8. Income from farm production should increase in order to meet the needs of the increasing national population.
9. Per capita and family incomes are low and do not compare favorably with the State of North Carolina.
10. Industrial sites are available with rail and highway transportation to the west only. All sites lack water and sewerage facilities.
11. The county has a recruitable labor supply.

An intensive effort should be made to discourage the out-migration of the county's young people. If young adults continue to leave the county, the following serious problems will have to be confronted:

- A. a decrease in the number of young adults available to industrial employers;
- B. a progressive population decline;
- C. a progressively increasing median age which will result in increased demands on welfare, health, and other costly community services; and
- D. increasing demand for the services noted above will place progressively heavier burdens upon available tax revenue.

CHAPTER 9
ECONOMIC IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

1. The median education level of Pamlico County should be raised. A strong "Head Start" program, supplementing of teachers' salaries, enforcement of school attendance, and the continuation of the efforts of the Pamlico County Technical Institute should be utilized. This educational program should be instituted during the summer of 1969 and continuing efforts made at upgrading.
2. The Pamlico County Chamber of Commerce should institute a "clean up-fix up-paint up" campaign among the businesses of Pamlico County to give the county a more appealing appearance. The businesses should attempt to increase their goods and services to prevent the citizens from leaving the county for these items. This campaign should begin as soon as possible during the summer of 1969. The impression such a campaign would create would be invaluable. The Chamber of Commerce should also take the lead in the formation of an effective Merchants Bureau which in turn should institute promotional sales campaigns among the county merchants.
3. An economic seminar should be established to meet bi-weekly during July, August, and September of 1969 to afford any and all citizens an opportunity to hear of different proposals to improve the economy with the possibility of offering suggestions.
4. It is recommended that all effort be made to implement the Pamlico County Water and Sewer Plan of Paul M. Van Camp and Associates. An organization should be formed in each of the seventeen water areas designated by Mr. Van Camp to contact potential users and to seek Federal grants or loans. The assistance of the County Attorney and all other county officials should be made available to these organizations. These organizations should be formed by September of 1969. The

first areas that should consider installation are the most populated areas such as the incorporated areas and these immediate surrounding areas.

5. The State Highway Commission should be induced to consider bridging the Neuse River in the vicinity of Minnesott Beach regardless of traffic count. The economic life of Pamlico County should be of primary consideration. The commission should also consider the bridging of the Pamlico River in the vicinity of the Texas Gulf Sulphur Plant north of Pamlico County. The first step in this program should be the institution of ferry service across the Neuse River in the vicinity of Minnesott Beach followed later by bridge construction.
6. A "tourist bureau" should be organized within the Chamber of Commerce to furnish information to prospective visitors relative to lodging, meals, and recreational activities. As commercial recreational activities increase, this "bureau" should make periodic surveys to determine if sufficient facilities are available for the increased activity. This bureau should also maintain a liason service between hunting-fishing guides and sportsmen. Preparations should be started now and the target date for the operation of such a bureau should be the spring of 1970.
7. The Pamlico County Chamber of Commerce, through its industrial committee, should form an Industrial Development Commission. The newly formed Industrial Development Commission should seek options on industrial sites in the vicinity of suitable soils, preferably with rail transportation as well as highway transportation. These sites must have water and possibly waste disposal systems. The commission should be in operation and have sites selected by November of 1969.
8. A campaign should be instituted by the civic clubs of Pamlico County to "clean-up" the county. Elimination of the scattered "dumps" and trash along the roads should be accom-

plished through contributions from such organizations and through "free" labor from the clubs and such organizations as the Boy Scouts. The garbage and trash disposal areas recently planned by the County Commissioners should be utilized and the county should encourage collection by municipalities and individuals. The campaign should be completed in April of 1970 prior to the beginning of the summer season.

9. The county officials should contact the large landholders, primarily the paper companies, with the idea of opening certain of their holdings to camping, fishing and hunting. These should be opened to tourists, not just to locally organized hunt clubs. As an inducement to the landowners, the county should patrol the areas through the Sheriff's Department. The Fire Departments within the county should agree to assist in fire protection and county employees should maintain cleanliness of the areas. This program should be instituted by October of 1970 prior to the hunting season.
10. Private developers should be encouraged to establish high quality subdivisions for new employees of surrounding areas, such as Texas Gulf Sulphur, in conjunction with the new golf course.
11. In conjunction with the entire program and accomplished on the tightest time schedule possible, the Planning Board should recommend a zoning ordinance, subdivision regulations and a building code for adoption by the Board of County Commissioners. Also, an administrator to administer and enforce such controls should be hired. Regulation without enforcement is of no value.

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